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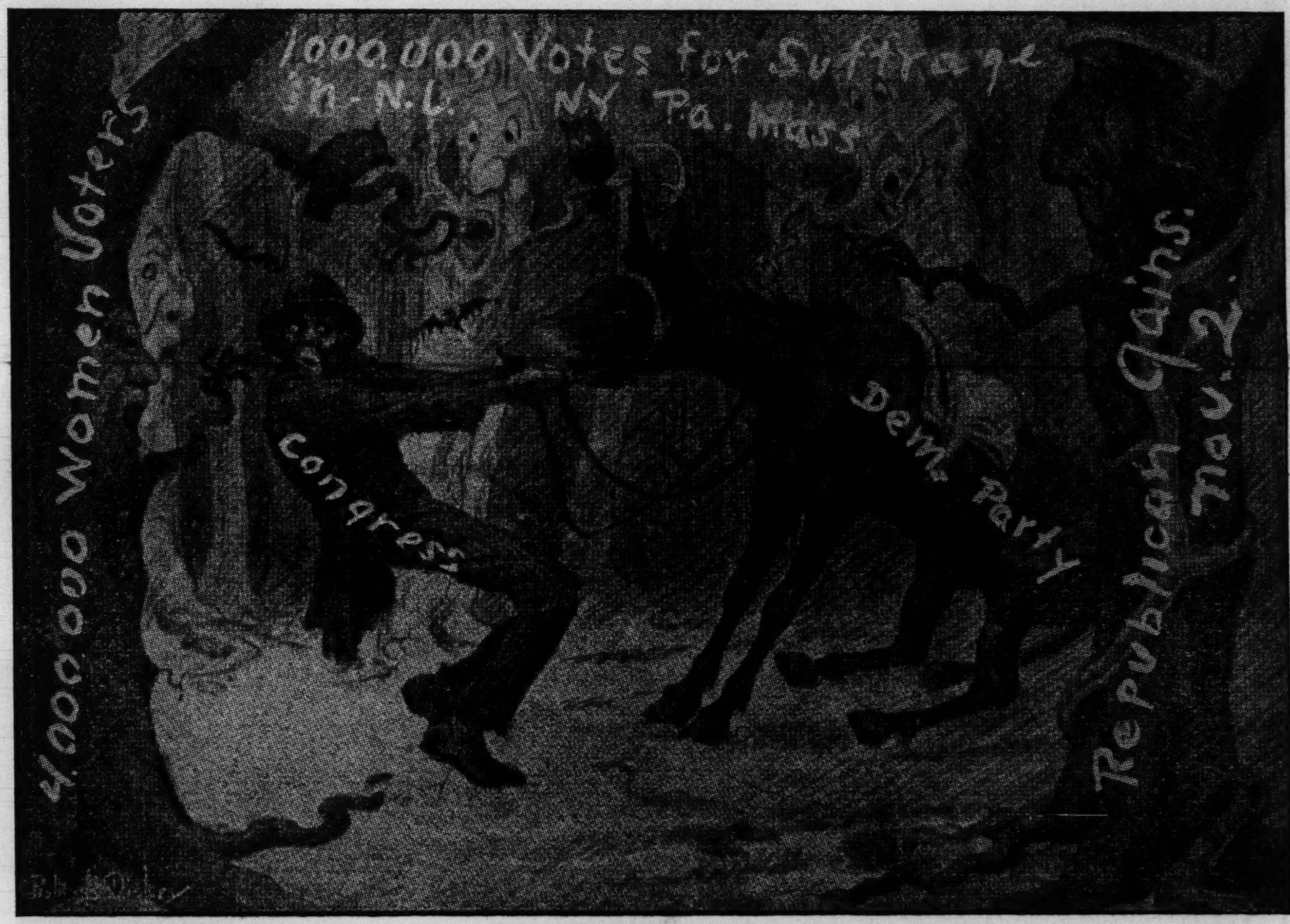
The Suffragist

WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

NOVEMBER 13, 1915



With Apologies to "Life"

"Come on, you ole fool! Dis ain' no place to be afraid"

Vol. III NOVEMBER 13, 1915 No. 46

The Suffragist

Weekly Organ of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage
1420 F Street N. W., Washington, D. C.
Art Editor . . . . MRS. NINA E. ALLENDER
Chairman Circulation Department, MRS. W. T. BURCH

Subscription Price:

Domestic.....$1.00
Foreign.....$1.50
Single Copies.....5 *cents*

Checks, drafts and postoffice orders should be made payable to The Treasurer of the Congressional Union
National Capital Press, Inc., Washington

Entered as second-class matter, Nov. 14, 1913, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under act of March 3, 1879

Notes of the Week

National Association Drops Shafroth Amendment

THE *New York Tribune,* in a news item of November 5, says:

"Accepting the advice of Mrs. Medill McCormick, of Chicago, that the Shafroth resolution —providing for suffrage referendums in the various states through a federal amendment—is 'a good tune, but not the tune you march to,' the National American Woman Suffrage Association announced yesterday that it had instructed the congressional committee not to introduce this much disputed topic in the Sixty-fourth Congress."

Governor Ferris of Michigan for National Woman Suffrage

HON. WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS, Governor of Michigan, and perhaps the strongest Democrat in the state, is a firm supporter of the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

In a recent note (October 13) to Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore, Governor Ferris writes:

"I have your letter of October twelfth asking for a terse statement of my opinion in relation to 'The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.' On previous occasions I have expressed myself fully in relation to woman suffrage. I am in favor of the Susan B. Anthony amendment. I am aware that President Wilson feels that this matter should be taken care of by the different states. Personally I can see no good reason why this amendment should not be made a part of the Constitution."

Governor Ferris's endorsement of the federal work in Michigan will be a powerful help in his state.

Congressman Hayes of California Strongly Favors Federal Suffrage Amendment

HON. E. A. HAYES, Congressman from California, believes the extension of the suffrage entirely within the field of federal work. He says that if anyone asserts it to be a matter for state control, one need only remind the advocate of states' rights that the fifteenth amendment proved suffrage to be a national issue, and that its present control and further extension are proper subjects for national action. Mr. Hayes is not a believer in increasing the field of federal control, nor of diminishing the field of state control. But he is convinced that federal action having been already taken in extending the franchise to the negro men, it is entirely consistent to demand federal action on votes for women.

Mrs. Hayes and her daughter are members of the Congressional Union. Mrs. Hayes says that she expects to see national suffrage win over the entire country within a few years.

Walsh Heads New Body to Continue Industrial Work

FRANK P. WALSH, chairman of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations, the three labor members of that commission and others active in industrial reform, met in New York City on November 8 and organized the Industrial Relations Committee to continue the work of the Industrial Commission, which expired by legal limitation on August 23.

The new committee is composed of twelve members, of whom seven are labor leaders. The others are Chairman Walsh, Amos R. E. Pinchot, Immigration Commissioner Frederick C. Howe, Bishop C. D. Williams of the Episcopal Diocese of Detroit and Dante Barton, a Kansas City newspaper man.

The labor members are John B. Lennon, treasurer of the American Federation of Labor; James O'Connell, president of the Metal Trades Department; Austin B. Garretson, president of the Order of Railroad Conductors; John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers; John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor; Helen Marot, of the Women's Trade Union League of New York, and Agnes Nestor, of the Women's Trade Union League of Chicago.

The committee, it was announced, will open headquarters at Washington and exert pressure upon Congress to procure the enactment of the Walsh report of the Commission on Industrial Relations and other legislation desired by labor unions.

The Walsh report gave the disfranchisement of women as one of the causes of the inequality of the wages paid to men and to women.

Raise $100,000 for Next Suffrage Battle

SUFFRAGE leaders of Greater New York at a meeting in Cooper Union on November 4 raised $100,000 in cash and pledges with which to continue the battle for the ballot.

Underwood Favors Tax for Naval Plan

SENATOR-elect Underwood last Tuesday told President Wilson that the money could be raised to finance the permanent navy increase program favored by the President. Mr. Underwood said the money could be raised by taxation, not by tariff legislation, because, he said, importations at the present time are small.

The former House leader declined to tell just what means he thought should be adopted in financing the program. It is clear, however, that his idea of the most effective means to be used is direct taxation of all citizens,—"by no means excluding women."

Anti-Suffrage Suffragists

THE anti-suffragists of Newport have already signed a petition requesting that women of property in Newport—that is to say, taxpayers—shall be allowed to vote on all municipal questions. Among them are two well-known anti-suffragists, Mrs. French Vanderbilt and Mrs. John Nicholas Brown.

Twelve Girls Die in Pittsburgh Factory

THIRTEEN persons, twelve of them girls, were suffocated or burned to death in a fire in a north side factory recently. Six are in local hospitals and thirteen others suffered minor injuries.

It is charged that the fire hose was so old that it burst as soon as it was put in operation, and that the building was a fire trap. The manager of the factory has been arrested pending an investigation.

Bernard Shaw on British Memorial to Miss Cavell

IN A LITTLE over a fortnight nearly $40,000 has been subscribed to newspaper funds for the erection of national memorials to Nurse Cavell, according to a London dispatch. It is proposed to place a statue of the nurse near Trafalgar Square and also to erect a Cavell home for nurses.

George Bernard Shaw, however, suggests a much more lasting memorial.

"There is a way," he says, "in which we can pay our debt to her and test the sincerity of her loudest champions.

"What we can do is very simple. We can enfranchise her sex in recognition of her proof of its valor. A bill might gracefully be introduced by Mr. McKenna in the Commons and Viscount Gladstone in the House of Lords.

"If the proposal is received in dead silence, I shall know Edith Cavell's sacrifice has been rejected by her country."

Suffrage for Women of Canada

A RECENT number of the *Irish Citizen* says, "The Premier of Alberta, one of the states which make up the Canadian Union, has announced the intention of his government to enfranchise the women of that state—or 'province' as they call it. The government has a big majority, and the successful passage of the bill may confidently be expected. In Canadian Statute, whatever franchise prevails for the provincial parliament is also adopted in that province, for the elections to the Dominion parliament; consequently the women of Alberta will, when the bill passes, be automatically endowed with Dominion franchise as well. Tho Toronto *Globe* says that, once a beginning has been made, it will not be long till the other states of the Canadian Dominion follow suit."

Women Enter Japanese Politics

THE *Literary Digest* for October 23 gives the following:

"Many novel features, unknown in previous elections, marked the recent general election in Japan. . . .

"The most interesting and significant feature of this political struggle was the active part taken by the Japanese women. In Tokyo, in particular, wives, mothers, and sisters of certain candidates busied themselves in canvassing the constituencies. . . .

"This new factor in Japanese politics is hailed by Mrs. Aki Yosano, editor of the woman's department of the influential Tokyo monthly, the *Taiyo,* as the dawn of a new era in the social life of Japan. . . . Mrs. Yosano is jubilant over the 'unmistakable sign of the awakening of our sisters, as indicated in the recent political campaign.'"

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SUITS COATS BLOUSES NOVELTIES MILLINERY GOWNS WRAPS FURS

Illinois Greets Women Voters' Envoy

WILLIAM HALE THOMPSON, mayor of Chicago, signed last week the petition which the envoys of the Woman Voters' Convention are carrying to President Wilson and to Congress, praying for favorable action on the Susan B. Anthony amendment, enfranchising women.

The welcome extended to the envoys of the Woman Voters' Convention in Chicago on Friday, November fifth, made one of the great days in the suffrage annals of that state. At eleven o'clock in the morning a line of half a hundred automobiles, gay with colors flying and filled with suffrage workers from all organizations, met Mrs. Field at the LaSalle Hotel. Mounted officers escorted the long line of cars through the crowded streets to the steps of the Art Museum on the wide Michigan Boulevard.

"My recollections of yesterday," Mrs. Field writes on November sixth, "are a confused mass of impressions—music and cheers;—throngs of men women and children;—colors flying in the sunshine, and great crowds surging and pressing about."

Mrs. Judith Lowenthal, an officer of the Political Equality League, the largest woman's organization in the state, introduced the western women to Mayor Thompson, who responded briefly, but with an earnest and uncompromising directness.

"Speaking for the city of Chicago, which I have the honor to represent, I can say that we wish you God-speed and much success on your mission," the Mayor told Mrs. Field. "We have watched the growth of the suffrage movement with great interest, and as you know we have partial suffrage in Illinois. I hope it will not be long before women have full suffrage here and throughout the nation."

"I like Mayor Thompson's way of putting it," said Mrs. Field, replying. "At Kansas City the other day the mayor quite flustered me with his speech. He said so many things about women;—for instance that woman was a muse that soared; that she was the poetry of our existence; and something about the sun, moon and stars. Then he added that he did not think women should be allowed to vote. I think Mayor Thompson's method is much better."

The women were grouped on the steps of the Institute; Mrs. Field, in her brown walking suit, surrounded by a mass of brilliant color. At the top of the steps a chorus of one hundred women stood, grouped in two divisions, the band between them. From the bronze standard in the center of the steps the amendment banner hung.

When the mayor arrived and Mrs. Field walked up the steps to meet him, the chorus sang her "Song of the Free Women." It was the first time Mrs. Field had heard it sung publicly.

"We had a crowd of one thousand about us," writes Miss Edith Swift, chairman of the Illinois Propaganda Committee, "when the mayor arrived. The enthusiasm was wonderful.

"After the meeting on the Art Institute steps, we returned to the LaSalle Hotel, where about one hundred women waited to see Congressman Fred A. Britten, of the ninth district of Illinois. When he arrived Mrs. William Severin, Miss Kate O'Connor and Mrs. Field told Mr. Britten of the plan of work for suffrage in the next Congress, and he assured them of his cordial and active support. Women from all of the suffrage organizations in Chicago were present."

"The meeting on the Art Institute steps," Mrs. Field says, "was not the only triumph for national suffrage. The next day the Chicago Women's Democratic Party endorsed the Susan B. Anthony amendment and pledged themselves to stand by it before all other considerations. At a meeting of the Political Equality League, where your envoy also spoke before a thousand interested women, the signature of everyone present was secured to the already mile-long petition.

"The Chicago women are congratulating themselves that when their pages of the petition reach Washington the long list of names will be headed by that of their mayor. Oh, no, he was second. In spite of the fact that he believes in suffrage, he courteously insisted on his wife's signing first."

A successful meeting was also held before the Republican Woman's Club and the envoys were entertained by Mrs. Brackett Bishop and Mrs. Laura G. Fixen, a member of the Board of the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association.

Mayor Thompson Welcomes Mrs. Field to Chicago

Congressman Peters of Maine Sees Second Delegation

A DELEGATION of women from Bangor, Maine, called recently upon Hon. J. A. Peters in Ellsworth.

This is the second suffrage deputation which has waited upon Congressman Peters, the first being arranged by Mrs. Florence Kelley last summer in the course of her work of organizing a convention in Maine for the Congressional Union. The women who called upon Congressman Peters on August 14 were summer residents; the second deputation included women native to Maine.

The deputation, consisting of Mrs. F. A. Ayers, Mrs. W. L. Hunt and Mrs. Charles E. Dole, of Bangor; and Mrs. Annie G. Porritt, of Hartford, Connecticut, met Congressman Peters on Thursday, October 28, at his office in Ellsworth.

Mr. Peters received his visitors most courteously. He was greatly in sympathy with the movement for woman suffrage, he said, and not only did he approve of the movement generally, but also of the amendment to the United States Constitution which was being promoted by the Congressional Union. He had voted for it in the last Congress and expected to vote for it again. Mr. Peters said that he had no doubt whatever that the amendment would be reported out of the committees of the Senate and House, and that there would be none of the opposition to its being voted upon in the House that had developed in the last Congress.

Mrs. Porritt elucidated the national political situation, pointing out that the strength of woman suffrage established in the West has put the matter squarely into national politics. It can only be removed from national politics, she said, by passing the suffrage amendment through Congress and thus referring the question to the states. Suffragists will then have nothing more to ask of Congress but will leave Washington to concentrate on the state legislatures.

Mr. Peters said laughingly that it was no inducement to him to vote for the amendment that the suffragists would no longer be busy in Washington. Nevertheless he thought the argument good, and asked several interested questions about the organization of the women voters of the West.

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Ten Cents
Half
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The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE.—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

Into Congress, January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the U. S. Senate.

Reported from Committee,

In the Senate,

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.

In the House,

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate,

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for, and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House,

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204 failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Susan B. Anthonny Amendment Only

ACCORDING to a recent statement made by Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, the National Association has decided to lay aside the Shafroth-Palmer amendment proposing to establish the initative referendum in the states for the disposition of the suffrage question.

This announcement will be met with unqualified approval by practically the entire body of suffragists throughout the country. The Shafroth-Palmer amendment was a poor measure in itself; and if it had got any headway, would have operated as a hindrance in Congress to the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

The prospect for the success of the national woman suffrage amendment in the next session is very bright. Suffrage has an immense backing of public opinion in the East and of voting strength in the West. We are approaching a presidential election. The support of organized bodies of intelligent women is of the highest value to any administration; and no administration will secure this support without recognizing women's right to political independence.

Our opportunity for success in the next session is all the greater now that suffragists are united behind a single bill, proposing in the most simple and direct language possible to remove from the ballot the qualification of sex.

The withdrawal of the Shafroth-Palmer amendment from the national suffrage field is a great gain to the suffrage cause; and will be greeted with satisfaction by workers in every state in the Union.

Party Control in the Senate

SENATOR Owen of Oklahoma, after a conference with President Wilson, has announced that the Democratic majority in the Senate will impose a cloture rule upon that body at the opening of the session.

The rule is intended to shut off unlimited debate in the Senate and to prevent a successful filibuster against the program of the administration. The cloture rule in the Senate will give the administration the same power over the deliberations of the Senate that it now has over the decisions of the House.

The announcement of this program has aroused in certain sections of the press an outcry against "gag rule." "It is doubtful," says the Philadelphia North American (November 2), "if the cloture can be applied in the Senate without danger to the public interests. For it is indisputable that the greater the power lodged in a majority composed chiefly of self-seeking politicians, the greater the danger that power will be abused."

The advocates of the cloture rule, however, point out that unlimited debate gives the minority power over the majority, and robs the administration of an opportunity to put through its program and thus stand clothed with full responsibility for the administration record.

Whether the advocates of the cloture rule are right or wrong, they are undoubtedly working in the direction of the modern plan of legislation, by which power is concentrated in the hands of a few leaders from whom the people may exact an accounting of government.

The present administration has from its beginning stood unqualifiedly for the theory that the administration should direct the activities of Congress; should initiate legislation; should lobby for it and should use every kind of pressure, persuasive and compulsive, in order to get administration measures passed. The machine in the House in the last session was stronger than ever before in the history of the country. The administration now quite logically turns to the Senate, in which the machine rule has been held at a minimum, in order to smooth the path of privileged legislation in that chamber also.

Suffragists are not responsible for the present government of Congress either theoretically or practically; but it is their obvious duty to note the methods by which Congress is governed so that they may know to what quarter to turn for help and from what quarter to expect opposition.

The power of party government was never clearer than it is at the present time in America, and the responsibility of the party for legislation enacted or postponed is patent to every political observer. Suffragists cannot ignore a force which can so powerfully aid or hinder them.

In the sixty-fourth Congress it will be the party in power which will decide the issue for or against suffrage. We are approaching that party in the hope that it will decide it fairly and favorably.

In asking the Democrats to act favorably on the suffrage issue we are approaching them as friends; we are giving them an opportunity to earn the lasting gratitude of the progressive men and women of the nation, and to win for their party a moral prestige which will endure throughout the century.

An opponent of the Democrats would wish the issue delayed until the party in which they were interested had an opportunity to act favorably upon it. Loyal suffragists are ready to give every party the fullest possible opportunity to earn a fair suffrage record.

The time is here for women of every political creed to unite in a sincere and whole-hearted attempt to secure the cooperation of the Democratic party for the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment in the sixty-fourth session of Congress.

Convention Program of the Congressional Union

December 6–13

PRESIDENT WILSON will meet the envoys of the Woman Voters' Convention at two o'clock on Monday, December 6. Three hundred invitations to meet Mrs. Field and Miss Jolliffe will be issued. The names, to be sent to the White House by Mrs. Helena Hill Weed, chairman of the Credentials Committee, will include officers of the Congressional Union, and delegates to the convention from the states in which branches of the Union have already been organized. There will be a few cards left for distinguished guests.

On December 6, at 11.30, an escort of suffragists will meet the envoys at Fourth Street and Maryland Avenue, northeast. At twelve o'clock they will return with the envoys, arriving at the Capitol at half-past twelve. There they will be greeted on the steps of the rotunda by a reception committee representing the House and Senate. Senator Sutherland will welcome the envoys on behalf of the Senate; Congressman Mondell will speak for the House.

Leaving their petitions with Congress, the envoys will move on to the White House, where they will be received at two o'clock in the famous East Room.

On December 7, in the Little White House, the convention headquarters of the Congressional Union, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, chairman of the committee which organized the Voters' Convention in San Francisco, will tender a reception to the envoys on their arrival here. At the reception Miss Helen Todd, of California, will be a speaker, and Madame Alda, a distinguished member of the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York, will sing.

On December 11, Mr. Frank P. Walsh, of Kansas City, formerly chairman of the Industrial Relations Commission, and Mrs. Glendower Evans, of Boston, a member of the Massachusetts Minimum Wage Commission, will speak at the dinner to be given for members of the convention. The toastmistress will be Miss Zona Gale, of Portage, Wisconsin.

Arrangements are being made for hearings before Senate and House committees.

A partial program of the week's activities follows:

First National Convention, Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage

December 6 to 13

Headquarters: *"The Little White House," Madison Place, opposite the White House, Washington, D. C.*

All meetings will be held at convention headquarters unless otherwise stated.

Chairman Committee on Arrangements: *Miss Anne Martin, Nevada.*

Program

December 6.

12.30 p. m. Envoys from Woman Voters' Convention present petitions and resolutions to Congress.

2 p. m. Envoys from Woman Voters' Convention present resolutions to President Wilson, East Room, White House.

8 p. m. Meeting of Executive Committee.

December 7.

8 p. m. Reception by Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont in honor of envoys.

December 8.

8 p. m. Meeting of National Advisory Council.

December 9.

10 a. m. Business Meeting.
- Convention called to order by the chairman National Executive Committee, Miss Alice Paul.
- Adoption of Program as Order of Business.
- Address of Welcome, Mrs. Nina E. Allender, chairman D. C. Branch Congressional Union.
- Reply on Behalf of the National Organization, Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, member National Executive Committee, Congressional Union.
- Appointment of Committees:
  - Nominating Committee.
  - Resolutions Committee.
  - Elections Committee.
- Report of Credentials Committee (preliminary), Mrs. Helena Hill Weed, chairman.
- Report of National Executive Committee, Miss Alice Paul, chairman.

2 p. m. Business meeting.
- Reports of State Branches by State Chairmen.

8 p. m. Meeting of officers of state branches.

December 10.

10. a m. Business meeting.
- Report of Credentials Committee, Mrs. Helena Hill Weed, chairman.
- Reports of state branches continued.
- Reports of National Organizers.

2 p. m. Business Meeting.
- Reports of National Committes and Departments:
  - Advisory Council, Mrs. Annie G. Porritt.
  - Committee of 100 on Maintenance National Headquarters, Mrs. William Kent.
  - Legislative, Miss Lucy Burns.
  - Membership, Miss Emily Stearns.
  - National Headquarters, Mrs. Robert Baker.
  - Pageants, Miss Hazel Mackaye.
  - Press, Miss Florence Brewer.
  - Research, Mrs. Helena Hill Weed.
  - SUFFRAGIST,
    - Editorial Dept., Miss Lucy Burns.
    - Art Dept., Mrs. Nina E. Allender.
    - Circulation Dept., Mrs. W. T. Burch.
  - Treasurer, Miss Joy Webster.
  - Woman Voters' Convention, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont.

8 p. m. Meeting of SUFFRAGIST chairmen.

December 11.

10 a. m. Business Meeting.
- Report Resolutions Committee.
- Report Elections Committee.
- Report Nominating Committee.
- Election of National Executive Committee.

2 p. m. Business Meeting.
- New Business.
- Unfinished Business.

7 p. m. Dinner given in honor of envoys by Mrs. Richard Wainwright.

December 12.

3.30 p. m. Mass Meeting, Belasco Theater.
Speakers:
Mrs. Margaret Zane Cherdron, Utah, chairman; Mrs. Sara Bard Field, Miss Frances Jolliffe, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Senator George Sutherland of Utah, Representative Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming.

8 p. m. Reception to delegates.

December 13.

4 p. m. Meeting of Committee of One Hundred, for Maintenance of National Headquarters.

8 p. m. Pageant, Convention Hall, New York Avenue.

December 14.

10 a. m. Meeting, Executive Committee.

New York Active for National Suffrage

Governor Whitman Will Receive Envoys of Women Voters

THE first big gun in the New York state campaign for the federal amendment, will be fired on November 19 in Albany, when Governor Whitman will give an official reception to the two envoys of the Woman Voters' Convention who are coming from the Pacific Coast, bearing a monster suffrage petition in favor of the federal amendment to present to the President and to Congress.

Mrs. Whitman will entertain the envoys at the executive mansion at half past twelve, following the reception by the Governor.

A meeting of the Advisory Council was held in New York on Friday, November 5, to arrange for the reception to the envoys in New York City.

It was decided that New York women will meet the Western visitors at the outskirts of the city on November 26 and escort them to Sherry's, where a reception will be held at four o'clock. Mrs. William Prendergast, wife of the comptroller; Mrs. William L. Colt, chairman of the Congressional Union in New York; Mrs. Robert Adamson, wife of the fire commissioner, and Mrs. Marcus M. Marks, wife of the borough president, were appointed a committee to arrange for the reception and invite New York Congressmen to attend it.

Mrs. Frederick R. Hazard will plan a welcome to the envoys in Syracuse.

For the general work of organization in New York Mrs. Adolphus Clay Bartlett was appointed financial chairman and Mrs. Mary Beard chairman of a committee to arrange drawing room meetings at which all phases of federal suffrage work could be discussed.

At the same meeting a conference of the members of the Congressional Union and its friends was called for November 27, to be held at headquarters, 13 East Forty-first Street, for the purpose of organizing a permanent branch of the Union in New York State. Mrs. John Rogers, Jr., was made chairman of the program for the day; and Mrs. Marian B. Cothren, chairman of the committee to draw up a constitution. Among others present were Mrs. Frederick C. Howe, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Miss Jessie Ashley, Mrs. John Winters Brannan, and Mrs. Rheta Childe Dorr.

On Thursday, a drawing room meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Brannan at which the hostess presided and Miss Alice Paul was the chief speaker. Two thousand dollars was raised to further the work of the Congressional Union in New York.

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Women Ask for National Enfranchisement

Congressman Overmyer "Guided by Party Leaders"

UNDER the leadership of Mrs. Louis A. Dickinson, of Fremont, a splendid delegation of women waited upon newly elected Congressman A. W. Overmyer, of the thirteenth district of Ohio.

The day was set for Wednesday, November third, at half-past eleven. About one hundred and fifty women met at the New Jackson Hotel; and after brief speeches the delegation, which represented every group of women in Fremont and Sandusky County, marched down the main street to Mr. Overmyer's office.

Mr. Overmyer expected about three women; he was much surprised when Mrs. Dickinson opened the door, and began introducing the ladies one by one. "I doubt if my office will hold them all, if they don't soon stop coming," said Mr. Overmyer; but he received each one most cordially.

Mrs. Dickinson made a brief speech, introducing Miss Margaret Whittemore, who was beginning to tell of the federal amendment and the purpose of the Congressional Union, when Mr. Overmyer said: "I know all about the Congressional Union and I know the Susan B. Anthony amendment."

He was so well informed on this subject that it was hardly necessary to explain it to him. It was more important to show him the strength of the suffrage sentiment existing in his district. Mrs. Dickinson therefore introduced Mrs. Charles Boehringer, vice-president of the City Federation of Clubs, who spoke on behalf of several hundred women in Mr. Overmyer's district. Miss Eliza Dorr, one of the leading school teachers of Fremont, spoke next in the interests of the teachers of the city and county, urging in their behalf his favorable consideration of the federal suffrage amendment. Thirty or more teachers were in the party with Miss Dorr. Miss Dorr informed Mr. Overmyer that the teachers of the N. E. A. had indorsed suffrage.

Next came Mrs. George Zimmerman, newly elected state president of the Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs, who made a very forceful appeal on behalf of the large group of organized women which she represented. "There are fifty thousand Ohio women in our organization," said Mrs. Zimmerman, "and the Federation has indorsed suffrage. Whenever the topic is mentioned at our conventions, it is immediately and unanimously applauded. There is no doubt of its popularity with the representative women of Ohio. During my recent trip through the West," Mrs. Zimmerman added, "I heard nothing but commendation for equal suffrage."

At the close of the speeches, Miss Whittemore told Mr. Overmyer of the national interest in the federal amendment and of the Woman Voters' Convention held at San Francisco to consider the suffrage question. Mr. Overmyer had heard of this convention and was much interested to know that the envoys of the women voters would pass through Fremont.

In replying to the delegation, Mr. Overmyer said, in brief, that he was a young man and a new member of Congress; "the leader of my party," he continued, "has spoken on this matter, and although I represent my district and have ideas of my own, I shall have to be, at least in the beginning, guided to some extent by those leaders; I do not mean by that that I shall not use my own discretion. You may be sure I will remember this visit and what you have asked of me. You say you do not wish me to give my final answer now, and I will be glad to continue to think over this subject. I must confess that I never could see any reason for withholding suffrage from anyone on account of sex. Still, as I said, I must be guided to some extent by the leaders of my party." His visitors suggested that Mr. Overmyer use his influence with the leaders of his party.

In parting, Mr. Overmyer thanked the members of the delegation for visiting him and asked them to come and see him in Washington, assuring them that he would do his best to express their opinion and that he "yielded to no man in his respect for women and their rights." As for his action on the federal suffrage amendment, he promised to give this matter very careful consideration. He was presented with a year's subscription to THE SUFFRAGIST.

Senator Poindexter Will Work for Suffrage

"YOU say quite truly," said Senator Poindexter, of Washington, to a deputation of the women voters of his constituency at Spokane last week, "that there is much more to do for suffrage in Congress than merely to vote and speak for the federal amendment; and anything that comes in my way to do, I expect to do; any opportunity given me I expect to take."

The interview with Senator Poindexter took place in the beautiful Hotel Davenport, Spokane, on Friday, October 29, at half past four. Leading women of the Senator's constituency had assembled to meet him. Mrs. George E. Dyar, president of the Federated Clubs of Spokane, chairman of the delegation, introduced as speakers Mrs. A. E. House, former president of the Spokane Women's Club; Mrs. A. P. Fawcett, a teacher of parliamentary law and one of the leading club women of Spokane; and Miss Virginia Arnold, organizer for the Congressional Union. All the speakers laid great emphasis on the economy of federal action and said it was the pleasure and privilege of enfranchised women to further in every way possible the movement for national woman suffrage.

"We were greatly disappointed," said Mrs. Fawcett, "when the amendment failed in the last Congress. We believe, however, that with the support that voting women are giving it, there is every reason to expect it to receive a favorable vote in the coming Congress. We look to you to work with all of your ability and with all of your strength for this amendment, both as a man and as a Senator."

Senator Poindexter expressed his pleasure to meet so many of the leading women of his state.

"I remember," he said, "and I am now very glad to remember, that in a speech I made the night before the women of Washington gained the suffrage, I strongly advocated their cause. More dependency, however, can be put in what a man does rather than what he talks loud about doing, and my vote in Congress is a better declaration from me than any words could be."

Senator Johnson of Maine Hears Suffrage Plea

SENATOR JOHNSON, of Maine, received a deputation of his constituents at Waterville on Monday, November 2.

The Senator was plainly astonished at its size and quality, and did not attempt to hide his surprise.

He also seemed much impressed by the arguments submitted, and said he was always open to conviction and would give the question of the federal suffrage amendment his most serious consideration. As Senator Johnson voted against the amendment in the last Congress, and began the interview on Monday by saying he was opposed to the measure, the deputation was pleased with his answer. The point that seemed to impress the Senator most favorably was that Congress does not amend the Constitution but merely refers the amendment to the state legislatures, the question then being removed from national politics and becoming a purely state question. Senator Johnson entirely agreed with this view.

THE deputation took place in Senator Johnson's office at Waterville. "Apparently," said the *Lewiston Evening Journal* (November 2), "he had expected perhaps half a dozen women when he made the appointment. When the women arrived and filed into the room, he began to look more and more surprised. With his usual courtesy, the Senator wished to find seats for all, but the resources of his offices were strained to provide chairs for the whole number and it was fully ten minutes before all could be comfortably seated."

The Senator began by setting forth in detail his position on the question of woman suffrage.

He said that he was entirely in favor of woman suffrage for the women of Maine, but he was perplexed over the difficulties of the people of the southern states. Mississippi was the state which engaged the Senator's attention the most. He stated that there were in Mississippi 100,000 more negroes than white people, and he thought the problem of the colored vote would be aggravated by the addition of the colored women to their electorate.

In reply Mrs. Annie G. Porritt called his attention to the fact that in the southern states there were more white women who would be added to the number of voters than there were colored men and women added together. She said that the amendment which the women were demanding did not affect the right of the states to impose any qualification on the suffrage that they desired. It only provided that sex was not to be made a qualification.

She then pointed out to the Senator that women already voted in eleven states for Senators and Congressmen, and in twelve for President; and that at the convention in San Francisco in September last, a very large body of these women had pledged themselves to put woman suffrage ahead of any party consideration—a fact which might enable them to cast the deciding vote for President in November, 1916.

Asked by the Senator if she intended this as a threat, Mrs. Porritt replied, "By no means. I only wish to make you understand that to us this question of woman suffrage is the greatest political question in the country, that it ranks far ahead of any party consideration. The women who have obtained the vote will never rest so long as there is a single state in the union in which the women are not enfranchised. The people of Mississippi will have to face the problem some time—why not now? The women cannot remain voteless because there is a problem to be met—in the solution of which they are ready to help—in one of the southern states.

"I believe you are a states' rights man," continued Mrs. Porritt. "You believe, do you not, that the states ought to settle this question? Well, let them settle it. Congress does not amend the United States Constitution. Congress merely passes the amendment in order to refer it to the state legislatures and not until it is ratified by thirty-six out of the forty-eight states does it become valid. A majority like this is large enough for any believer in majority rule to accept; and the other states, if they do not ratify, ought to submit to the will of the majority. They will have to in time, because when the women get the vote in thirty-six states they will certainly not rest while the other women are without political rights. You would not respect us if we would, would you, Senator?" concluded Mrs. Porritt.

The enormous expense and labor of the state-by-state method was then taken up by Mrs. Porritt, and she told out of her own experience what it means to the women of New York and New Jersey and Pennsylvania and Massachusetts to go to the individual voters to beg them to give the women the ballot. "Suffragists have called for speakers during the recent campaign who can talk in seventeen languages. We have to go begging for our political rights at the feet of Italians, Greeks, Armenians, Syrians and all the other varieties of voters, and the more ignorant they are, the more readily they turn us down. It is an intolerable indignity and humiliation to American women, and you men ought not to subject us to it. We are willing to come to our congressmen and legislators. They at least understand us when we speak English. We are not willing to beg our political freedom of these newly naturalized aliens."

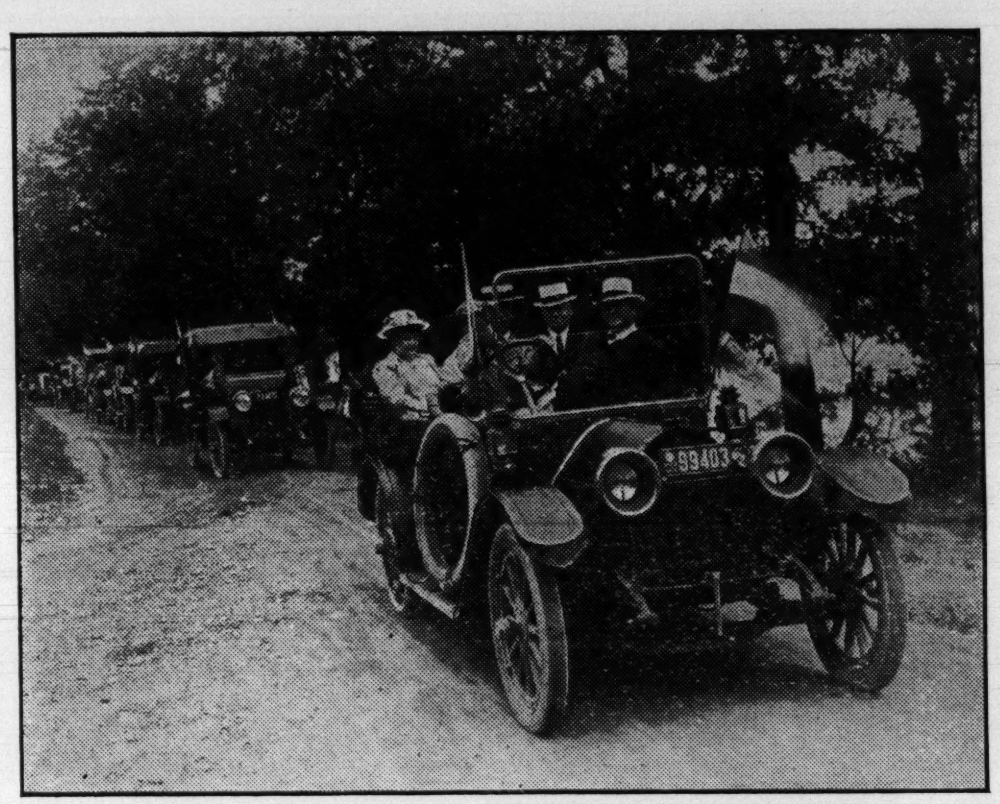
Senator Johnson, who seemed much impressed by the size and quality of the deputation, and who listened very attentively to all that the women laid before him, said that he never considered his mind made up. He was always willing to change if good reasons were presented and he would take the arguments very seriously into consideration.

Michigan Active for National Woman Suffrage

Section of Deputation to Hon. C. A. Nichols, Michigan

IN Michigan the organized activities of the Congressional Union began on July 14, when, at the home of Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore, in Detroit, a luncheon was given in honor of Miss Alice Paul. Plans were there formulated for a conference of Michigan suffragists to be called later, and deputations were proposed to interview each United States senator and representative in the state and to ascertain his attitude toward the Susan B. Anthony amendment to the Federal Constitution. Many of the most prominent women of the state were present at the luncheon and enthusiastically pledged their active co-operation in interviewing the state members of the national congress.

Twelve days after this meeting, on July 26, the first of the proposed deputations took place. It was composed of a large number of women constituents of Congressman Frank E. Doremus. Mr. Doremus was plainly impressed by the earnestness of the deputation. From that day his attitude toward woman suffrage became serious and attentive. Mr. Doremus maintained at this meeting that an amendment to the United States constitution took from the people the right to decide public questions. Suffragists expect to be able to persuade him that our method of amending the constitution does not override local rights.



Automobile Procession, Deputation to Mr. Kelley

In the course of a brilliantly successful trip made by Mrs. Nelson Whittemore, a deputation to Mr. P. H. Kelley, representative from the sixth congressional district of Michigan, was arranged. Mr. Kelley believes in the justice of the Susan B. Anthony amendment and voted for it in the last congress. His constituents in Oakland County gave a large luncheon at the Detroit Automobile Club, near Pontiac, at which he was the guest of honor. A number of distinguished women spoke, thanking him for his vote in support of national woman suffrage and asking for his continued active support. Mr. Kelley promised his loyal help.

The next deputation took place on August 30, when a large delegation of prominent women from the twelfth congressional district called upon Hon. W. Frank James, Congressman from that district. Mr. James, upon being asked to state his position on the question, delighted his constituents by announcing that he intended to vote for the amendment. As a member of the state senate he had voted for suffrage in the state, but his attitude toward the federal amendment was unknown until he assured the delegation of his support.

Hon. S. W. Beaker, of Ann Arbor, congressman from the second district, was next visited by the women of his district. Mr. Beakes declares he believes in suffrage, but that equal suffrage must come "state by state." He says his right to vote came from the state constitution and that women must get theirs from the same source; after women "get more states" they can carry a federal amendment. Mr. Beakes' constituents intend to show him that four million women now enfranchised are enough to make the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment sure.

On the same day, October 22, Congressman George A. Loud was visited by a delegation of fifty representative women of Bay City. While Mr. Loud declared himself to be a suffragist and affirmed that he worked for suffrage at every opportunity which presented itself, he said that he felt he must vote on the federal amendment according to the wishes of his constituents who had voted in the state campaigns against suffrage. But he assured the members of the deputation that, should they prove to him that the people in his district desired the passage of the amendment, he would unquestionably vote for it. The deputation will assuredly leave no stone unturned in order to convince him that his constituents are in favor of the amendment.

The intelligent activities of the summer campaign so demonstrated not only to the Representatives of the state, but to the general public as well, the spirit of splendid determination hidden under the gay good humor of the suffragists that when calls for a convention to be held October 1 and 2 were issued a profound interest in the Susan B. Anthony amendment became apparent throughout the entire state. These calls numbered two thousand in all and were signed by some of the best known women of the state. They had been given wide publicity and spread broadcast. The sessions of the convention were largely attended and at them it was evident that the wonderful enthusiasm with which the work had begun had accomplished a very definite result. A strong official staff was elected, including Mrs. Edward N. Breitung, of Marquette, chairman; Mrs. Eugene R. Shippen, of Detroit, first vice-chairman; Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore, of Detroit, second vice-chairman; Mrs. Ralph Ainsworth, secretary; Mrs. Jennie Law Hardy, of Tecumseh, treasurer; Mrs. C. B. Hamilton, of Grand Rapids, and Mrs. G. B. Jennison of Bay City, directors.

Michigan women will leave no stone unturned to have their state favorably represented in Congress when the Susan B. Anthony amendment is voted on next session.

Luncheon Given in Honor of Congressman P. H. Kelley of Michigan

The National Convention of the Congressional Union

Washington, D. C., December 6 to 13

General Information.

For general information write to Miss Anne Martin, Congressional Union Headquarters, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., General Chairman, Committee on Arrangements.

Credentials.

For information concerning delegates to convention, voting rights, badges, and seating arrangements, write to Mrs. Helena Hill Weed, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., chairman Credentials Committee.

The Credentials Committee will be on duty at Convention Headquarters, Madison Place, from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m., Sunday, December 5; from 9 to 11 a. m. and from 4 to 10 p. m., December 6; and from 9 to 10 a. m. December 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, for the convenience of delegates.

Hospitality.

For information concerning hotels, boarding houses and free hospitality, write to Mrs. John Jay White, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., chairman Hospitality Committee.

The Hospitality Committee will be on duty at the same place and time as the Credentials Committee.

The Hospitality Committee will endeavor to provide free hospitality for all delegates who desire it.

At the Convention Headquarters, Madison Place, there will be a few bedrooms available for members of the Convention. These rooms are exceptionally choice and vary in price with size and location.

European Plan—Rooms Without Meals

Large corner room with bath adjoining—one person, $5.00 per day.

Smaller front room with bath—one person, $3.00 per day.

Large back room with bath adjoining—one person, $5.00 per day.

Small back room, detached bath—one person, $2.00 per day.

Two rooms opening one into the other with bath—in the back wing, two beds in one room and one in the other—$1.00 each person per day.

The large corner room and smaller front room are connected by the bathroom and can be used as a suite.

A simple breakfast and buffet-lunch will be served in the house.

Postal Arrangements.

A substation of the United States Postoffice will be maintained at Convention Headquarters from December 6 to 13. Mail for delegates may be addressed to Congressional Union Convention Headquarters, Madison Place, Washington, D. C.

Railroad Rates.

For information concerning reduced railroad rates, write to Mrs. Paul Dessez, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., chairman Committee on Railroad Rates.

Excursions and Points of Interest near Washington.

For information write to Mrs. Virginia White Speel, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., chairman Committee on Excursions.

Dinner for Delegates.

Saturday, December 11, 7 p. m., Convention Headquarters. Tickets, $2.50 per plate.

Delegates and visitors wishing tickets should apply at once to Mrs. Richard Wainwright, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., chairman Committee on Arrangements.

Mass Meeting in Honor of Women Voters' Envoys.

December 12, 3.30 p. m., Belasco Theater. Tickets may be obtained at 25c., 50c., 75c., $1, $1.25, $1.50, boxes $12, seating 4; $15, seating 6; $20, seating 5; $25, seating 6; $30, seating 8. Apply to Miss Gertrude Crocker, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., ticket secretary.

Susan B. Anthony Pageant.

Monday, December 13, 8 p. m., Convention Hall, Fifth Street and New York Avenue. Tickets may be obtained at 25c., 50c., 75c., $1, $1.25, $1.50, $2. Boxes, $25 seating 6; $50 seating 7. Apply to Miss Gertrude Crocker, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., ticket secretary.

Welcome to Women Voters' Envoys.

Suffragists who are able to participate in the welcome to the envoys of the Women Voters are asked to fill out the following form and send it to Miss Emma Waldo, 1420 F Street, Washington, D. C., chairman Registration Committee.

I expect to be one of the escort to welcome the envoys of the Women Voters to Washington, December 6.

Name .....

Address .....

Occupation .....

Members of escort will meet at 11:30 a. m., December 6, Stanton Square, Fourth Street and Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, D. C., and conduct envoys to Capitol where they will be received by members of Senate and House at 12.30. They will then proceed to White House where envoys will be received by President at 2 p. m.

5,000 New Subscribers

Members Who Have Secured New Subscribers for "The Suffragist"

(In this column we list the subscriptions sent in each week by our members. These are only a part of the total number of new subscribers.)

OCTOBER 31 THROUGH NOVEMBER 6, 1915

Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore	4
Mrs. Nelson Whittemore	1
Mrs. W. T. Burch	5
Mrs. Bertha W. Fowler	1
Miss Lucy Burns	4
Miss Ethel Church	9
Miss M. Brooke Bright	2
Mrs. Gertrude Hunter	2
Miss Emily K. Perry	1
Mrs. Virginia M. Tucker	1
Miss Elizabeth Smith	1
Miss Marie E. Kennedy	1
Mrs. H. S. Luscomb	1
Mrs. Jane P. Rogers	1
Mrs. Lillian M. Ascough	5
Miss Elizabeth D. Elder	1
Total	40
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	1,600
Total through November 6	1,640

Treasurer's Report

Contributions toward $100,000 Fund for Securing the Passage of the Federal Suffrage Amendment

List of Contributors from November 1 Through November 8

Miss E. S. Beakin	$1.00
M. Curryer Smith	2.00
Miss E. Danforth	1.00
Mr. Arthur Johnson	2.40
Mrs. Irving Scott	10.00
Mrs. Helen Renwick	5.00
Mrs. Edward F. Glaser	5.00
Mrs. Texa B. Williams	5.00
Mrs. J. A. McConnell	5.00
Mrs. W. H. Irvine	5.00
Mrs. Genevieve Allen	5.00
Miss Doris Stevens (collected)	117.28
Mrs. Angus-Gordon Boggs	5.00
Mrs. Nellie Hunter	1.00
Mrs. Henry Sahlein	5.00
Mrs. Lovell White	25.00
Mrs. Villa Reynolds	1.00
Mrs. Marie Jenney Howe	25.00
Mrs. William Kent	100.00
Mrs. Jesse D. Hampton	25.00
Dr. Miriam M. Butt	5.00
Knickerbocker - Knickerbocker Co., San Francisco	10.00
Mrs. Sophie Meredith	9.75
Mrs. E. F. Burchand	2.00
Miss Helen Randall	2.00
Miss Katherine Fisher	1.00
Miss Rachael A. Rees	1.00
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont	500.00
Miss Eleanor Brannan	25.00
Miss Blanche L. Strange	50.00
Miss Frances McCallin	4.75
Mrs. A. H. Bright	2.00
Mrs. Horace Newhart	5.00
Collections	30.29
Membership fees	262.01
Sale of Tickets	44.00
Total	$1,304.48
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	81,852.38
Total collected through November 8	$83,156.86

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